Envoy Dungan Resigns; Thorn in Latin Policy

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An especially prickly thorn in the side of Administration policy-making for Latin America was removed yesterday as Ralph A. Dungan pulled out of ambassadorial ranks.

Dungan's decision to resign as Ambassador to Chile for a high state job in New Jersey withdraws one of the most intense figures of a running controversy in Washington.

From his post in Chile, and behind the scenes in Washington, Dungan campaigned against present United States military policy in Latin America.

He advocated not only the more familiar calls for a cutback in United States military sales and weapons grants to Latin America. Dungan also was rattling the gates of entrenched status quo policy to try to slash the size of what he regarded as grossly inflated United States military representation in Latin America.

The dispute is about to resurface in Washington. It will get a major boost in attention from the Arab-Israeli war that has touched new Senate sensitivities about American arms policy in the Middle East.